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For the past several weeks, Ian and I have planned to do a mailbag segment on *Indiecast*. But we always end up yapping for too long, and the segment inevitably ends up getting bumped. This week, we finally rectified the situation by addressing some emails from their loyal listeners. What do *Indiecast* listeners want to know about? Our first letter concerns the matter of seated shows vs. standing-room-only shows, and which is preferable. You can probably guess what the 40something-year-old hosts of *Indiecast* think about this, though I made a case for seated shows providing "guaranteed real estate" that you don't have to defend if you leave temporarily to get a beer or go to the bathroom. From there, Ian and I finally address the email about The Weakerthans, and give our opinion on the beloved Canadian band. We also talk about our favorite indie-rock bassists of the last 25 years, and the legacy of the indie-folk band Beirut. [Check out the episode here.](#)

-- Steven Hyden, Uproxx Cultural Critic and author of five books, most recently *Long Road: Pearl Jam And The Soundtrack Of A Generation*

In case you missed it...

Paul McCartney has admitted that **Yoko Ono**'s presence during **The Beatles'** recording sessions was an "interference in the

workplace."

Travis Barker showed off the nasty injury he suffered for drumming too hard during a **Blink-182** show.

In as close to an **Oasis** reunion as we're likely to get, **Liam Gallagher** is celebrating the band's debut with an anniversary tour.

Our latest **Indie Mixtape 20 Q&A** is with **The Drums**, who find forgiveness and peace with 'Jonny'

OPENING TRACKS



BEIRUT

This indie-folk act peaked in popularity back in the blog-rock aughts, a time when Zach Condon's brand of emotive songwriting and world-music influences were in vogue. While they're no longer the flavor of the month, Beirut's audience has remained loyal, and the upcoming *Hadsel* (due November 10) should find an audience.

LISTEN**CAT POWER**

Along with being a masterful songwriter, Chan Marshall also has one of the most breathtaking voices in all of indie rock. Hearing her sing other people's songs is just as delightful as Marshall doing her own material. We're doubly psyched by the forthcoming *Cat Power Sings Dylan: The 1966 Royal Albert Hall Concert.*

LISTEN**SQUIRREL FLOWER**

This Chicago-based project from singer-songwriter Ella Williams has a habit of taking introspective, folk-leaning songs and exploding them unexpectedly with fits of righteous guitar noise. Her just-released album, *Tomorrow's Fire*, looks to expand her sound further with contributions from MJ Lenderman and Dave Hartley (The War On Drugs.)

LISTEN**DEEP CUTS**



L'RAIN

Composer and multi-instrumentalist Taja Creek — otherwise known as L'Rain — makes experimental music that toggles between the worlds of art and pop. It's a heady sound that might confound one moment and soothe the ear the next. What it's not is predictable. And that is definitely true of the latest L'Rain album, the sardonically titled *I Killed Your Dog*.

[LISTEN](#)

THE MOUNTAIN GOATS

John Darnielle is one of the prolific singer-songwriters in indie rock, especially in the past few years, so it's no surprise that the Mountain Goats once again have a new album on the horizon. The band's latest, *Jenny From Thebes*, drops October 27, and is previewed by the recent single "Fresh Tattoo."

[LISTEN](#)

VINYL OF THE WEEK

'70S BUNDLE' by VARIOUS ARTISTS – 4LP



Revisit an iconic era of music with this red vinyl bundle. It includes the groundbreaking albums like The Doobie Brothers' *Minute By Minute*, Ramones' self-titled LP, Chicago's *Chicago V*, and an until-now unissued version of Todd Rundgren's *Runt* featuring different mixes, edits, and sequencing.

PICK IT UP

THROWBACK

'ENGLISH SETTLEMENT' by XTC

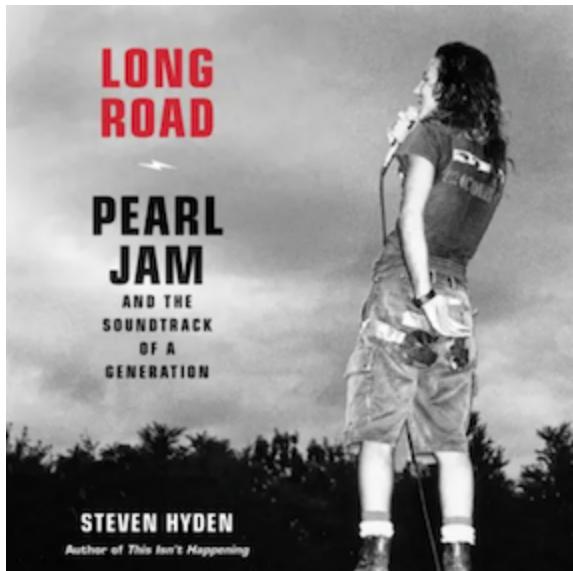


It is our goal here at Indie Mixtape to encourage young indie bands to listen to the great post-punk/psych-rock band XTC, who

put out a series of wonderful mixtapes in the '80s and '90s, none more wonderful than this beauty from 1982.

[LISTEN](#)

LINER NOTES



Order Steven Hyden's latest book

Steven Hyden's Long Road: Pearl Jam and The Soundtrack Of A Generation is now available in paperback.

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